

Amendments to the Specification - Page 1**HEAD-STABILIZED MEDICAL APPARATUS, SYSTEM AND METHODOLOGY****Cross Reference to Related Case**

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/188,564, filed July 3, 2002 by John M. Epley for "Comprehensive Vertigo Management", now U.S. Patent No. 6,800,062 B2, issued October 5, 2004. The entire contents of that prior case are hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Background and Summary of the Invention

The present invention involves a head-stabilized method and apparatus designed for the diagnosis and treatment of vestibular disorders involving symptoms of dizziness, vertigo and/or imbalance. It also relates to the structures of certain special devices that are particularly suited for use with this method and apparatus, and to certain procedural approaches that the structure and method of the invention make advantageous.

In a manner of speaking, the invention recognizes, and centers attention on, the discovered significance of utilizing various, plural-simultaneously-employed sensors/detectors which are specially positionally stabilized, both (a) with respect to the head of a patient, and (b) with respect to each other, for the simultaneous gathering, and immediate computer processing, of plural-parameter data which can lead to accurate diagnoses and treatment of disorders of the types just generally mentioned above. Both mentioned categories of stabilization have been found to be important and unique in this sophisticated and challenging field of medical practice. Positional stabilization, undertaken in accordance with practice of the invention, leads to accurate correlation of different simultaneously gathered data components, and thus leads, in turn, to significant improvements in diagnostic speed and accuracy, and in trustable opportunities to rely with confidence on rapid, computer-based vestibular analyses and conclusions.

Dizziness, including vertigo and imbalance, is one of the most common complaints presenting to the physician. Although these symptoms may be caused by a variety of abnormal conditions affecting either the peripheral or central nervous systems, the cause can most commonly be traced to abnormalities involving the vestibular

Page 2 PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115 for Application of John M. Epley; Serial No. 10/715,871; Attorney Docket No. J-EPLY.1002